



## Everville

*Clive Barker*

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On the borderland between this world and the world of Quiddity, the sea of our dreams, sits Everville. For years, it has lived in ignorance of the gleaming shore on which it lies. But its ignorance is not bliss. Opening the door between worlds, Clive Barker delivers his characters into the heart of the human mystery; into a place of revelation, where the forces which have shaped our past (and are ready to destroy our future) are at work.

## Everville Details

Date : Published November 3rd 1999 by HarperPerennial (first published October 27th 1994)

ISBN : 9780060933159

Author : Clive Barker

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## From Reader Review Everville for online ebook

### Amcii Cullum says

I really did not enjoy this book. I groveled to myself thee entire way through...when is this going to end. I read it because it is Clive Barker and a sequel to The Great and Secret Show but not his best, perhaps worst, in fact, work yet.

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### Kasi says

Excellent follow up to "The Great and Secret Show." Where the other was more guts and gore, this novel was complete fantasy, reminded me a bit of "Weaveworld" and the movie "What Dreams May Come." I love Clive Barker's imagination and characters. I did notice that his hetero-relationships were romanticized, while the few gay characters seem to have more gritty lifestyles and love lives. I don't know if this distinction was made consciously, but it did bother me once I noticed the strong contrast. Nevertheless, a great read.

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### Michael says

I didn't finish this. I read 200 pages of characters eating and screwing. After five pages about eating fish out of Quiddity just to reach another sex scene, I threw the book across the room. How many ways can Clive Barker describe a dick? I'm not sticking around to find out. I found all the characters unlikeable yet none of them disagreeable in any unique or compelling way. And the editor needed to circle the endless endless counts of being verbs in just that first 200 pages and suggest some active verbs. Clive Barker can write astounding tales of brutality and invention. I'll move on to some of those. Yeah, this is a DNF, but I'm rating it because of the misery I went through just getting as far as I did.

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### Kirk says

One of the first books I read outside of school. After spending my summers hunting bullfrogs and watching Welcome Back Kotter on Canadian television, this book rocked my world. The small-town horse blinders I had been wearing since childhood were punched off by a fist forged from LSD and pornography . . . or something like that. I had listened to Cannibal Corpse before reading this book, so I was acquainted with vile concepts. This was probably one of the first outlandish and disturbing things I was exposed to that had substance, however. For me, that's important.

I didn't read The Great and Secret Show until a few years later, and many of the problems I had with Everville were resolved when I finally did. I love both, but Everville was my first, and for that reason I love it more.

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### J.A. Sullivan says

The world that Barker creates is so vivid you can feel the waters of Quiddity, the dream sea, lap against your

toes, smell the stink of the Lix creatures as they try to destroy our heroine, and when you look up from the pages, you can't help but feel as if maybe demons really do walk among us.

There is so much that happens in this novel that a summary would do nothing except confuse and possibly spoil the story, so suffice it to say that if you love a good mix of horror and fantasy, Everville will take you on one hell of a ride.

My only issue is that there are so many characters, with rich full details, that the plot wasn't as tight as it could have been, and trying to recall the roles of each of the characters (who sometimes disappear for many chapters) was a big challenge. But that being said, I still enjoyed it immensely.

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## **Dark-Draco says**

When I first started reading this, I was annoyed that I couldn't remember the intricacies of the first book, but I soon found that you didn't need to have read the first to understand the second. Anything you needed to know, Barker gently reminds to of. So once I got into it, I really started to enjoy it.

The story starts of in the old west of America, with a group of pioneers struggling through winter in order to find a new home. One of their number has dreams of founding a great, shining city called Everville, but he is looked on with suspicion by the other travellers. On the side of a mountain, they stumble upon strange creatures who have come through a door from the dream world of the Metacosm and the sea of Quiddity.

Cut to a modern day, and Everville is a small, but thriving town...and it is festival weekend. But there was always a plan for it, and forces start to converge to be there for the end. Tesla, heroine of the first book, carrying the soul of Raul within her, stumbles into town; Kissoon, crazy magician and seeker of the Art, starts a killing spree across the USA; The Death-boy rises from the Dead to seek his sister; Buddenbaum, immortal storyteller, has his own plans for the town; Pheobe, dragged into the whole thing; Joe, her lover, accidentally travelling through the door. Because the Door is still open and the Iad are coming through to destroy our world.

Fast paced and a good read. There are quite a lot of characters to keep tabs on, but the story keeps you motoring along to the end. The ending was the only really disappointing thing about the book - I'm not sure if the author has left it open for another novel, or whether you're supposed to be thinking about your own answers, but I felt that it did the characters little justice. Still, if another one is written, I will definitely be reading it.

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## **Missy (myweereads) says**

“Maybe the best journey’s are ones with no return tickets”

Everville by Clive Barker is the Second Book of The Art and continues on with the story from The Great And Secret Show.

Instantly after the first few chapters we are reunited with some of the best characters from the first book. There is an eclectic range of them to love and hate. I was excited to see Harry D’Amour and Tesla again and my favourite Norma!! We also get to meet Mave who dreamed Everville into existence. Each one of these

characters are living contrasting lives however all connected in the great scheme of things because of Quiddity.

The story takes us through various journeys each character is on towards the conclusion of who will possess The Art. There are many fights amongst humans, demons, entities and much more. Clive Barker uses his iconic style of writing to completely grip the reader. The use of such incredible imagery and unthinkable scenarios between the parallel worlds within Quiddity were incredibly written. The despair, love, hatred, hope, sacrifice and dread were only a few of many themes that run through this book that kept me reading on and each of them expressed in a unique disturbing yet beautiful way.

Everville for me is an excellent continuation of the story about Quiddity and The Art. As always the disturbing and grotesque imagery is still present as well as the incredible imaginative events that take place. Reading the first book is helpful to know all the intimate details however even if you read Everville without the first you are told about what has happened before in detail. I would however recommend reading the books in order and immersing yourself into a world of horror and bat shit crazy fantasy ??

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## Squire says

Barker's Second Book of the Art is a muddled disappointment but manage to keep my interest.

Alternately savage, disgusting and beautiful, *Everville* never really takes flight. It doesn't show any of the lyrical prose of its predecessor until more than halfway through and it remains disjointed even "The Grand Design" is revealed in Part VI. Most of the characters introduced are unappealing and the ones that return from *The Great and Secret Show* no longer have their previous interest level. In fact, Barker seemingly brings characters back to to kill them off--which doesn't mean anything really, I suppose, since death is a transition to a new existence in the Art Books. Still, the story does have it's moments (Phoebe's and Joe's coupling in Quiddity, the dream-sea, is a standout) and a character I had expected to dislike (Harry D'Amour, based on his appearance in *The Scarlet Gospels*) turned out to be my favorite character of the book.

Another of the problems I had was that there didn't seem to be a clear villain in this outing. Owen Buddenbaum seemed to be manipulating the events of the book (with divine help), but then Kisson (who is much more compelling a villain) returns and appears to be the one in control of the whole affair. If this were the middle book of a trilogy, I could understand the confusion being introduced, but since there is no concluding (or continuing) volume, I am at a loss to really appreciate this novel.

This was a 2 1/2 star effort for me. But then, on page 343, Barker makes the following statement:

"...in a week his **defenestration** would be an embarrassing memory..."

This word is #1 on my short list of favorite words in the English language. I have very little opportunity to use this word in everyday speech (and I don't come across the word "defenestrate" or any conjugates of the word in literature very often), so I must give it special attention. For me, it is worth an extra 1/2 star in rating.

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## Dreadlocksmile says

The year of 1994 saw the first publication of Everville - The second Book of The Art. Following on from the

awesome novel 'The Great And Secret Show' (1989), 'Everville' is the second installment into the proposed trilogy. The novel is a spectacular escape into the limitless world of Clive Barker's imagination. The story of Everville stands well as a story on its own, and can indeed be read without having read the first book, but it does work best as a sequel.

Everville finds itself exploring and expanding more upon the characters that appear in the first novel. The storyline becomes more intense and fast-paced, with the complex ideas and principals of the novels forming a powerful underlying basis to the book.

This sequel is nothing short of genius, delivering a gripping and involved storyline that will set your imagination alive. This is a book that you will truly treasure for the rest of your life. Please, if you haven't already done so...go out and read this book.

Running for a total of 640 pages, the book doesn't once lose its interest or its hold over you. A true masterpiece in every sense of the word.

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### ?????? ?????? says

It was on October two years ago when I decided to familiarize myself with Clive Barker's works, especially since I thoroughly enjoyed his graphic novel *Tapping the Vein*. I thought he had a very eloquent prose that fits his gothic and horror themes, so I was more than happy to pick up *Everville* in one of the secondhand bookstores I go to. As soon as I was done with re-reading some favorite chapters in *Les Misérables* and *The Hobbit* in preparation for the film viewing of these two, I went straight for *Everville*, eager to devour the contents since the writer was a promising one. On one hand, it was one of the most magnetic and exquisitely realized stories I've ever seen in print. On the other, my enjoyment of this novel also depended on my mental preparedness and attention and in that regard, I somehow lost track and found the reading experience tedious since my focus is not entirely on this book. This may make my review slightly evasive but I will try my best to illuminate the good parts of this story as well as the overall great quality of the novel.

First off, *Everville* was a sequel to *The Great and Secret Show*. About a hundred pages in, I was beginning to suspect that I was missing some ingredients about the story so I googled it and saw that it was supposed to be the second book of The Book of Art series, which is probably the reason why I can't seem to grasp everything that easily. However, this book can be enjoyed by itself but I think I would advise that one must read the first book since it can enhance one's appreciation for the adventures and subtle character dynamics present in *Everville*. My breaks in between reading the book was also a factor to consider. It always takes me a whole week before I could get back to reading, and this even made my understanding of the subplots and characters shamefully inconsistent. Take away all the struggle to squeeze this book into my hectic college calendar, and I could confidently say that this book is one of the strangest yet intensely captivating stories I have read in a while. It's a breathless fantasy story that mingles horror and romance in the most sensual way and in a span of chapters was able to blend of eroticism and terror in the kind of prose that makes Barker's narrative style definitively enigmatic.

There are many subplots that are entangled between and among each other so I really advise that your breaks between reading this book are not as long as mine in order to sustain your grasp on the stories and characters and you'll be more enthralled with the conflicts that follow after in doing so. There is a lot of groundwork to be established in the beginning five to six chapters or so, but Barker introduces and fleshes out the main players seamlessly enough especially since these characters are integral to the events that are about to transpire. The setting alternates between *Everville* and *Quiddity*, locations that harbor a history of secrets and power which eccentric individuals who travel from one to the other are in search for their own destinies or

are caught up in a meaningful tapestry that unfolds before their eyes. Both places are born from dreams, made real by being shaped from certain desires and longing, and they converge through humanity's consciousness. The central plot is confounding but with an elusive mythology that I find charming and deceptive as I read on. At some point in our lives, we travel Quiddity but only three times: when we are born, when we first love, and when we die.

Memorable characters were Tesla Bombeck, Owen Buddenbaum, Nathan Grillo and Phoebe Cobb. Numerous minor characters who interact with these major ones provide the subplots with more intrigue, suspense and drama as many revelations become more and more transparent halfway through the book. The pacing was evenly distributed among the most important subplot and character although the quantity of such subplots and characters can be actually become tad underwhelming in some chapters. The mythos and overall atmosphere of the novel reminded me of HBO's short-lived but equally brilliant series *Carnivale* which dealt with the same elements of mystic forces making up the fabric of a society that is on the verge of mass destruction. There are also Christian elements on the novel that translate well as effective contrast to the almost blatant paganism of the characters from *Quiddity*. The themes of the novel dealt on the exploration of the concept of destinies, deities, faith in forces beyond human comprehension, and humanity's ability to transform dreams into concrete people and places.

I truly liked the book. I'm going to look for a copy of *The Great and Secret Show* when I find the time. I think there is a lot to the story I wasn't able to digest well, especially since the characters featured are admirably depicted, thanks to Barker's lavish but not excessive style of characterization and descriptive narrative. I think it could be remedied when I'm able to read the prequel.

**RECOMMENDED** granted you also read the first book: **8/10**

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### Tag Cavello says

I love Clive Barker's fantasy, but this baby just didn't work for me. He betrays some characters from the first book (*Great And Secret Show*) while somehow managing to make its main protagonist, Tesla Bombeck, even less likable. Owen Buddenbahm (forgive my spelling here, I have not read this book since 1995) and his lover, Seth, do not make interesting villains. I was happy when this book ended, and a little puzzled with disappointment.

The greatness that Barker is capable of (see *Weaveworld*, *Imajica*, and *The Thief Of Always*) does not present itself here.

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### Rachel says

This is my first Barker book! I'm soooo excited! It took some persuading, but me mom eventually agreed to let me buy it. I've read a total of 6 maybe 7 paragraphs so far, and it is GREAT! I feel hopeless already! (That's a good thing.)

And now, too much of a good thing can be bad. Clive Barker is damn creepy. I'm going to cool off with lighter, thinner reads.

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## Richard says

utterly forgettable follow up to The Great & Secret Show

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## Tyler says

I can see why some people might enjoy this book, and the writing was good enough. However, I finally gave up when I realized I didn't care about any of the characters, and it was making me depressed. I have better things to do with my time.

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## Božana says

Ako mi je Utkani svet bio ?aša hladnog piva onda bih ovo mogla da stavim pod veoma mlako da ne kažem toplo pivo.Obe?avaju?i po?etak i zanimljiv kraj ali izme?u poprili?no viška stranica.

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## Maria says

This was excellent. A wonderful part 2 to The Great and Secret Show. I really loved that it was a story in itself. Often, it seems that authors give us a part two just to cash in on the characters we knew and loved in the first one. This is definitely not the case with this book. There are characters from the first one (Tesla, Raul, Grillo, JoBeth, Tommy Ray, and Howie) but none of them are mentioned for the first 100 pages or so. This means that we get new characters and a new problem. The other great thing about this type of sequel is that the author doesn't fall into either trap by summarizing everything from the first one or introducing totally new material with the assumption that we have just finished the first book. He seamlessly reminds us of the important things we must remember from the first book but in a way where I don't feel like he is totally insulting me by rehashing it or to the detriment of someone who didn't know there was a prequel.

The story was beautiful. The character of Phoebe was instantly relatable (though in some ways similar to a character from Coldheart Canyon; but then again, I guess a slightly overweight, middle-aged, unhappily married woman is probably more common than I would like to think). I don't want to give too much away, but Joe and Phoebe were excellent together and apart. Sometimes the individual characters in a couple are not totally fleshed out and get some of their identity from each other but not here. Joe was a vibrant character, stubborn, sweet, sexy; even when he was without Phoebe.

Reading these books I wish Quiddity were real. It seems like my generation is so beset by apathy that we NEED something like the events in these books to force us to evolve. Perhaps the economic distress, global warming, and political upheaval in the world right now is going to force a change on our generation but from my point of view that wouldn't be a bad thing. The world will always be here, but it will change. I think change is upon us (especially in the US where we are days away from a new president and some possible changes) and by embracing that change we can enjoy a peaceful, environmentally friendly, tolerant future.

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## Anna says

Κλασικ? ργο του Clive Barker, a.k.a. γεμ?το απ? τ?ρατα, ανθρ?πους "ιδια?τερους", Θεο?ς και το τ?λος του κ?σμου να πλησι?ζει ανελ?ητα, ?λα αυτ? σε μια κατ? τα ?λλα ... αδι?φορη π?λη της Αμερικ?ς! Και με σεξουαλικ?ς σκην?ς ιδια?τερα... πειστικ?ς!!!

Σημαντικ? ?τι το βιβλ?ο ε?ναι συν?χεια του Μεγ?λου Μυστικο? Θε?ματος με πολλο?ς ?ρωες να εμφαν?ζονται σε εκε?νο το βιβλ?ο. Προσωπικ? - επειδ? δεν το ε?χα διαβ?σει - ?νιωθα ?τι κ?τι ?χανα απ? τους ?ρωες, οπ?τε καλ? θα ?ταν ο αναγν?στης να διαβ?σει πρ?τα το Μεγ?λο Μυστικ? Θ?αμα για να κατανο?σει καλ?τερα την ψυχοσ?νθεση των ηρ?ων. Σε κ?θε περ?πτωση το βιβλ?ο θα το λατρ?ψουν οι φανατικο? του Μπ?ρκερ και του ε?δους (μεταφυσικ?ς τρ?μος)

Αλ?θεια, πιστε?ετε - σαν κι εμ?να - ?τι ο Μπ?ρκερ συνεχ?ζει στο δρ?μο του Lovecraft?

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## Yesh says

Everville is a uniquely wonderful book. A metaphysical fantasy that not only stretches the boundaries of your imagination, but also keeps you engrossed in the plot.

It makes you think deep into the various possibilities of existence, and I'm falling short of words to describe the author's brilliance here. I'll just say this- you must read it. (*You'll have to read the first book 'The Great and Secret Show', to get to this one. But it'll be worth it because the shortcomings of the first book are seen nowhere in this one.*)

The characters are interesting and likeable. Yet, when they die, you don't really feel remorseful; you just ask 'what's next?'. Such is the power of the plot that the book doesn't rely on your attachment to its characters to keep you going.

'Book of the Art' is an unfinished trilogy... The third book might never come out, which is a little sad. Nevertheless, Everville held its own story. And I'm so glad I read this.

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## Nicki says

You have to start with The Great and Secret Show but as soon as you start Everville you are surrounded by old friends and enemies. One of my favorite books of all time!

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## Thomas says

Βιβλ?ο θητε?ας #2

Readathon 2017 [2/13]: ?να βιβλ?ο με 1 μ?νο λ?ξη στον τ?τλο

Μετ' το εξαιρετικ' Το μεγαλο μυστικ' θ'αμα η Τ'σλα Μπ'μπεκ, ο Γκρ'λο κι ο Χ'ρι μας ξανασυστ'νονται σε ν'ες περιπ'τειες. Ε'ναι σκληρ' δουλει' να προσπαθε'ς να σ'σεις τον κ'σμο απ' την καταστροφ' κι ο Barker ξ'ρει να βασαν'σει τους ρ'ωες του β'ζοντας ατ'λειωτα εμπ'δια και ηθικ' διλ'μματα. Αριστοτεχνικ' αφ'γηση για ακ'μη μια φορ' που δημιουργε' παραισθησιογ'νο σασπ'νς, εξαιρετικο' χαρακτ'ρες που αναδιπλ'νουν υπ'ροχα τις αρετ'ς μα και τα ελαττ'ματα της ανθρ'πινης φ'σης και πολ'ς -μα πολ'ς- θ'νατος. Βιβλ'ο του Barker ε'ναι ρ'λλωστε.

Παρ' την ατμοσφαιρικ' και κλειστοφοβικ' εξιστ'ρηση 'μως, ο συγγραφ'ας εδ' νομ'ζω κουρ'στηκε ' βαρ'θηκε στην πορε'α. Κι εν' η πλοκ' ε'χε 'λα τα φ'ντα για να απογειωθε', το αποτ'λεσμα ρ'χισε να θυμ'ζει κολλ'ζ σκ'ρπιων ιδε'ν.

Μ'νει μ'νο να δο'με αν 'ραγε θα γραφτε' ποτ' το 3ο και τελευτα'ο μ'ρος της σειρ'ς...

★★★½

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